



*U.S. Department of Energy  
and the  
National Science Foundation*



March 21, 2005

Professor Fred Gilman  
Chair, HEPAP  
Carnegie-Mellon University  
5000 Forbes Avenue  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213

Dear Professor Gilman:

As you recall, in January 2002 the High Energy Physics Advisory Panel (HEPAP) unanimously endorsed the report of the Long-Range Planning Subpanel chaired by Jonathan Bagger and Barry Barish, which created a twenty-year vision for the field of particle physics, and in November 2002 HEPAP implemented one of the central recommendations of this Subpanel by creating a Particle Physics Project Prioritization Panel (P5). P5 was created as a HEPAP subpanel with a two-year lifespan, and a final report was requested in November 2004.

We are writing now to request that HEPAP establish a new P5 Subpanel for a period of two years. The membership of the Subpanel should represent those communities in particle physics and related fields that can give independent advice on the relative merits of the various proposals considered. As before, P5 should evaluate for HEPAP the merits of specific proposals, and make recommendations concerning their priority standing in the context of the national high-energy physics program. In particular, this Subpanel should recommend priorities for mid-size and medium-term proposals as requested by the agencies. These proposals will typically, but not necessarily, have already received endorsement from their respective laboratories' Program Advisory Committee(s) (if based at a national lab), or an equivalent external peer-review process that can assess the scientific merit of the proposals.

The funding agencies will convey to you particular sets of proposals for P5's consideration with background information on estimated available resources in separate communications over the life of the subpanel.

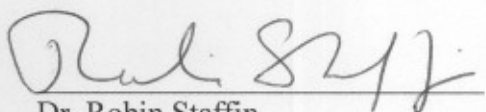
In assessing physics priorities, the Subpanel should weigh physics importance and the overall balance of the field within the context of available resources, including available funding and manpower, timescales, and other programmatic concerns. It will consider proposals across particle physics, broadly defined, and across funding sources. Where relevant, the Subpanel should consider the international context of proposals, their relation to the programs of related fields such as nuclear physics and astrophysics, and their broader impacts on science and society. While understanding the broad physics program context in which these proposals exist is vital for properly evaluating and prioritizing the individual proposals, that context itself is outside the purview of P5. Advice on the general direction and overall priorities for the U.S.

particle physics program is properly the responsibility of HEPAP itself, and any advice provided to the Department of Energy and the National Science Foundation should reflect HEPAP's views.

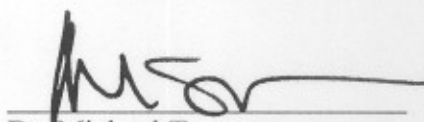
We look forward to the establishment of the new P5 Subpanel in the near future. We would like to have periodic status reports to HEPAP on the work of the Subpanel with a final report by the end of 2006.

We wish you success in this challenging and important endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robin Staffin", written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Robin Staffin  
Associate Director  
Office of High Energy Physics  
Office of Science  
Department of Energy

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael Turner", written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Michael Turner  
Director  
for Mathematical and Physical Sciences  
National Science Foundation